

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/828,533	NIXON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lars A. Olson	3617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment received from the applicant on August 29, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Reasons for Allowance

1. An amendment was received from the applicant on August 29, 2007.
2. A supplemental declaration was received from the applicant on August 7, 2007.
3. Claims 1-31 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The port security barrier as claimed is not shown or suggested in the prior art because of the use of a port security barrier that is comprised of a plurality of port security barrier modules that are connected together to form a floating security barrier, and a plurality of mooring buoys that are disposed between an adjacent pair of said port security barrier modules, where each of said port security barrier modules is further comprised of a longitudinal strength member, a rectangular shaped capture net that extends vertically upward from said longitudinal strength member, a net support structure that extends vertically upward from said longitudinal strength member, and a plurality of pontoons that are attached to said longitudinal strength member and are orientated perpendicular to said longitudinal strength member.
5. The prior art as disclosed by Metherell et al. (US 6,591,774), Murray (US 4,961,393), Kalnitz (US 2,369,464), Elia (US 1,772,888), Muncy (US 1,353,811), Johnson (US 1,249,107), Corrado et al. (US 1,204,547) and Newhall, Jr., et al. (US 1,151,607) shows the use of various fixed, floating and towed security barriers and torpedo nets for the protection of ships that are moored within a port or harbor. However, none of the prior art cited shows or suggests the use of a port security barrier

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that is comprised of a plurality of port security barrier modules that are connected together to form a floating security barrier, and a plurality of mooring buoys that are disposed between an adjacent pair of said port security barrier modules, where each of said port security barrier modules is further comprised of a longitudinal strength member, a rectangular shaped capture net that extends vertically upward from said longitudinal strength member, a net support structure that extends vertically upward from said longitudinal strength member, and a plurality of pontoons that are attached to said longitudinal strength member and are orientated perpendicular to said longitudinal strength member.

Conclusion

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Exr. Lars Olson whose telephone number is (571) 272-6685.

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September 19, 2007

LARS A. OLSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Lars Olson
9/19/07